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Attorney's Docket No. 1027651-000282

Application No. 10/553,193

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MAR 03 2009

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

*This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.*

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) Method in connection with the continuous joining of a first layer of a first material aluminum and a second layer of a second different material, to produce a packaging laminate comprising said first and second layers, the method comprising: subjecting wherein a free surface of at least said first layer of aluminum and/or a free surface of said second layer is subjected to both to plasma treatment and to flame treatment; [.] where after joining together said free surfaces are joined together after the flame treatment and the plasma treatment; joining the first layer, before the flame treatment and the plasma treatment, with a bulk layer of paper or paperboard, on a side of the first layer opposite to the free surface of the first layer, the bulk layer exhibiting though holes, openings or slits covered by a membrane comprising the first layer of aluminum; the plasma treatment being performed locally, at regions of the through holes, openings or slits, the plasma treatment being performed intermittently on a continuously running web comprising the first layer.

2. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 1, wherein said plasma treatment is performed before said flame treatment.

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3. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 1, wherein said flame treatment is performed before said plasma treatment.

4. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 1, wherein said flame treatment is performed over essentially the entire free surface of said first and/or said second layer, said first and/or second layers extending throughout the laminate that is produced.

5. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 1, wherein said plasma treatment is performed over essentially the entire free surface of said first and/or said second layer, said first and/or second layers extending throughout the laminate that is produced.

6. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 1, wherein said first layer is an aluminum foil layer.

7. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 1, wherein said second layer is a film of adhesive material or thermoplastics, which preferably is co-extruded ~~extruded~~, before said treatment, preferably co-extruded together with a third, thermoplastic layer which is to form an outermost layer on the inside of the packaging laminate, said third layer preferably being a polyethylene layer and even more preferred a polyethylene layer comprising in the majority metallocene polyethylene.

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8. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 7, a fourth, intermediate layer of low density polyethylene being arranged between said second layer and said third layer said second, third and fourth layers preferably being co-extruded with one another, before said treatment.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Canceled)

11. (Previously Presented) Packing laminate comprising a first layer of a first material and a second layer of a second material, wherein it has been produced by a method according to claim 1.

12. (Previously Presented) Packaging container manufactured from the packaging laminate as specified in claim 11.

13. (Previously Presented) Packaging container according to claim 12, wherein it is provided with an opening arrangement applied onto the region of and around the membrane and the hole, opening or slit provided according to claim 9.

14. (Previously Presented) Packaging container according to claim 13, wherein the opening arrangement comprises a screw top that is arranged to open the packaging container by removing the membrane from the region of the hole by a combined screwing-and pulling-up motion.

15. (New) Method according to claim 7, wherein the third layer is a polyethylene layer comprising in the majority metallocene polyethylene.

16. (New) Packing laminate comprising:  
a first layer of aluminum and a second layer of a material different from aluminum, the first layer having a first side surface joined to a bulk layer of paper or paperboard and an opposite flame-treated and plasma-treated second side surface joined to the second layer, the bulk layer exhibiting though holes, openings or slits covered by a membrane comprising the first layer of aluminum, the plasma-treated second side surface comprising spaced apart locally plasma-treated regions at the through holes, openings or slits.